

# COBBETT'S WEEKLY POLITICAL REGISTER.

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## ERRATUM.

In the last Register, p. 380, for *must stand*, read *must be stayed*. There are, I am sorry to say, several other errors in that Register; but this was so gross, that I could not let it pass.

## RURAL RIDE,

*To Tring, in Hertfordshire.*

*Barn-Elm Farm, 23d September, 1829.*

MR. ELLIMAN, of TRING, had from me, last March, 25,000 *Locust Trees*, wherewith to make a plantation near that town: and I, having a great desire to see this plantation, went thither for the purpose, on Wednesday, the 16th instant. The morning was very wet, and the whole day gloomy; but the next day, when I saw the plantation (of which I shall give an account by-and-by), the weather was pretty fair.

The state of the *harvest* all down this road is bad enough. From London to Tring is about thirty-two miles. From Watford to the latter place it is a corn country, finely intermixed with wood and grass land, and, in general, pretty rich. About six miles beyond Tring is AYLESBURY, in the midst of its beautiful and rich *vale*, which my friends took me to see, I never having seen it before. I saw one field of *wheat* out, and two or three of *oats*; but the *barley* was, I think, about *half out*: some of it still *uncut*, and the rest in the various states between the scythe and the wagon. This crop is in a truly dismal state: it must all be unfit for malting; and a great part of it more than half-destroyed, as food for hogs. The *beans* were generally *cut*; but a great part of them standing in the field in shocks. They are things which

do not take damage quickly; but they are lessened in value when once *soaked* through, though they become dry again. Besides, great wet softens the *pod*; when it dries again, it becomes too restricted for the swelled beans (which do not dry so quickly as the *pod*); the *pod* bursts, and the beans fall out upon the ground. Hogs will pick them up, to be sure; but this is not the most profitable way of using them; and, besides, they lose one-half of their *fattening* quality. So that this crop also is greatly damaged. As to *hay*, the prime crop having been greatly injured by the wet, the *second cut* became of more than usual importance; and those very rains which have done so much mischief to other crops, increased the bulk of this; and if this month had given us fine weather, the *hay* would, upon the whole, have been a good crop. But, alas! the contrary has been the case; and accordingly, the *second cut* hay has been carried in in the worst possible condition, or is now, in various stages, lying actually rotting upon the ground. A more dismal sight it would be difficult to imagine. The *turnips* are plenty as to *number*; but they are small, and are choked with *weeds*.

This, I take it, is pretty much the state of the *harvest* throughout the whole of England, *South of Coventry*; while, in the North, the *wheat*-harvest is, I suppose, carrying on in the midst of all those torrents of rain; and I am certain, that if the same *currency* were afloat that was afloat in 1812, wheat would now sell for *twenty shillings a bushel*, and malting barley for *twelve or fourteen*. They now sell for little more than a *third* of that price; and as the open ports will prevent them from greatly rising in price, farmers and landowners, bound firmly in the ties of *sensible* "national faith," *must be ruined*: they have no money wherewith to pay *wages* to the labourers for working on their lands: they are compelled to feed them so as to prevent open violence on their property; the lands are *delectively tilled*; while money is sent

abroad for the purchase of corn; the country declines, perishes inch by inch; industry every where hangs its head, while the idlers, the jews, jobbers, loan-mongers, placemen, pensioners, sinecure-people, dead-weight, and all the innumerable swarms that live on the taxes, are buzzing about as joyously as flesh-flies about a half-putrid carcass under an American sun.

Mr. ELLIMAN's plantation of Locust trees was the only pleasing object that I saw in the country. The spot where the trees stand, lies on the top of a very high ridge of hills, which run along for many miles, in a direction from east to west. The distance from Tring is about three miles, nearly all the way *up-hill*; and the very hill on which the Locusts are growing, is said to be one of the highest in England. The sub-soil is *chalk*, covered by a *thin* coat of *reddish* soil, mixed with small stones. In low spots, on the top of this ridge, the top soil approaches towards a *clay*; but the spot where the Locusts are, is of a drier description. The plantation consists of *five acres and a half*; and as the trees are at *four feet* apart each way, here are *fourteen thousand nine hundred and sixty trees*. The rest of the 25,000 Mr. Elliman has put into mixed plantations, with *less care*, and, as is natural and just, with *proportionate* success.

For his prime plantation he *trenched the ground*, according to the instructions contained in my work, entitled "*THE WOODLANDS*," from paragraph 14 to paragraph 25, both inclusive; and as, in his case, it required to *keep the top soil at top*, he followed strictly the directions given in paragraphs from 20 to 25; a method of trenching which, I will venture to say, no man, whether gardener or planter, ever recommended before, at least in print. This plantation, which is now so beautiful a sight, would have been, on this soil, comparatively nothing, if this my method of trenching had not been adopted. We all know how unpropitious the *spring* was for planting of every sort; the heavy and cold rains in April battered the ground down smooth; the dry and windy May, and half June, *baked* it and *bound* it till nearly as hard

as a foot-path: yet, of these 14,960 trees, Mr. Elliman thinks that there are not *two hundred dead*; while to look over the plantation, there does not appear to be a single gap. The trees were *sorted* according to the directions given in *THE WOODLANDS*. Generally speaking, they were nearly of the same size; but those which were visibly much larger than the rest, were selected and put together in one part of the plantation. The whole were lopped off in the manner directed in *THE WOODLANDS*, in order to prevent their height, when newly planted, from causing them to be blown about in the wind, and loosened in the ground. The plantation had been *hoed*, but the continued wetness of the summer had prevented the weeds from being wholly kept down. Some of the trees had made shoots about three feet long; but perhaps the general length of the main shoots might be from a foot and a half to two feet. There are numerous side-shoots, of course; so that the trees, generally speaking, nearly meet by their extreme shoots: and as the growth had been so uniform, and as the trees were originally of so nearly the same size, the plantation, taken altogether, is the handsomest thing of the kind that I ever saw, and does great credit to the planter. For a plantation of equal size, and at six months from the day of planting, I am pretty certain that so flourishing a plantation, and so beautiful, has very seldom been seen. In richer ground, the shoots would have been longer; but when it is considered that these trees were carried from London in the month of March, without mats or bandages round the roots; and when the exposure of the roots to the wind and sun, absolutely necessary in so large an undertaking of the kind; when these things are considered, the success of this plantation is truly wonderful; and it verifies all that I have ever said about the growth and the easy cultivation of this tree. Next spring, Mr. Elliman means to cut the trees down to the ground, agreeably to the directions given in *THE WOODLANDS*, and to take off all the shoots but one, as soon as they appear. This will give him, at the end of two years, a vigorous and beautiful planta-

tion from seven to nine or ten feet high ; and at that time, land and trees, taken together, will be worth fifty pounds an acre. The land being freehold, not having cost (recently purchased) more, I believe, than seventeen pounds an acre, at the most.

As if to prove the truth of all that has been said in *THE WOODLANDS* about the impolicy of cheap planting, as it is called, Mr. ELLIMAN has planted another and larger field with a mixture of ash, locusts, and larches ; not upon *trenched* ground, but upon ground moved with the plough. The larches made great haste to *depart this life*, bequeathing to Mr. ELLIMAN a very salutary lesson. The ash appeared to be alive, and that is all : the locusts, though they had to share in all the disadvantages of their neighbours, appeared, it seems, to be doing pretty well, and had made decent shoots, when a neighbour's sheep invaded the plantation, and, being fond of the locust leaves and shoots, as all cattle are, reduced them to mere stumps, as it were to put them upon a level with the ash. In *THE WOODLANDS*, I have strongly pressed the necessity of effectual fences : without these, you plant and sow in vain : you plant and sow the plants and seeds of disappointment and mortification ; and the earth, being always grateful, is sure to reward you with a plentiful crop. One half acre of Mr. Elliman's plantation of locusts before-mentioned, time will tell him, is worth more than the whole of the six or seven acres of this *cheaply* planted field.

Besides the 25,000 trees which Mr. ELLIMAN had from me, he had some (and a part of them fine plants) which he himself had raised from seed, in the manner described in *THE WOODLANDS* under the head "*Locust*." This seed he bought from me ; and, as I shall sell but a very few more locust plants, I recommend gentlemen to sow the seed for themselves, according to the directions given in *THE WOODLANDS*, in paragraphs 383 to 386 inclusive. In that part of *THE WOODLANDS* will be found the most minute directions for the sowing of this seed, and particularly in the preparing of it for sowing ; for, unless

the proper precautions are taken here, one seed out of one hundred will not come up ; and, with the proper precautions, one seed in one hundred will not fail to come up. I beg the reader, who intends to sow locusts, to read with great care the latter part of paragraph 368 of *THE WOODLANDS*.

At this town of Tring, which is a very pretty and respectable place, I saw what reminded me of another of my endeavours to introduce useful things into this country. At the door of a shop I saw a large *case*, with the lid taken off, containing *bundles of straw for platting*. It was straw of spring wheat, tied up in small bundles, with the ear on ; just such as I myself have grown in England many times, and bleached for platting, according to the instructions so elaborately given in the last edition of my "*COTTAGE ECONOMY* ;" and which instructions I was enabled to give from the information collected by my son JAMES in America. I asked the shopkeeper where he got this straw : he said, that it came from Tuscany ; and that it was manufactured there at Tring, and other places, for, as I understood, some single individual master-manufacturer. I told the shopkeeper, that I wondered that they should send to Tuscany for the straw, seeing that it might be grown, harvested, and equally well bleached at Tring ; that it was now, at this time, grown, bleached, and manufactured into bonnets in Kent ; and I showed to several persons at Tring a bonnet which my wife wore thither, made in Kent, from the straw of wheat grown in Kent, and presented to her by that most public-spirited and excellent man, Mr. JOHN WOOD, of Wettersham, who died, to the great sorrow of the whole country round about him, three or four years ago. He had taken infinite pains with this matter, had brought a young woman from Suffolk at his own expense, to teach the children at Wettersham the whole of this manufacture from beginning to end ; and, before he died, he saw as handsome bonnets made as ever came from Tuscany. At Benenden, the parish in which Mr. Hodges resides, there is now a manufactory of the same sort, begun, in

the first place, under the benevolent auspices of that gentleman's daughters, who began by teaching a poor fellow who had been a cripple from his infancy, who was living with a poor widowed mother, and who is now the master of a school of this description, in the beautiful villages of BENENDEN and ROLVENDEN, in Kent. My wife, wishing to have her bonnet cleaned some time ago, applied to a person who performs such work, at Brighton, and got into a conversation with her about the *English Leghorn* bonnets. The woman told her that they looked very well at first, but that they would not retain their colour, and added, "They will not clean, ma'am, like this 'bonnet that you have.'" She was left with a request to clean that; and the result being the same as with all Leghorn bonnets, she was surprised upon being told that that was an "*English Leghorn*." In short, there is no difference at all in the two; and if these people at Tring choose to grow the straw instead of importing it from Leghorn; and if they choose to make plat, and to make bonnets just as beautiful and as lasting as those which come from Leghorn, they have nothing to do but to read my "*Cottage Economy*," paragraph 224 to paragraph 234, inclusive, where they will find, as plain as words can make it, the whole mass of directions for taking the seed of the wheat, and converting the produce into bonnets. There they will find directions, first, as to the *sort of wheat*; second, as to the *proper land for growing the wheat*; third, *season for sowing*; fourth, *quantity of seed to the acre, and manner of sowing*; fifth, *season for cutting the wheat*; sixth, *manner of cutting it*; seventh, *manner of bleaching*; eighth, *manner of housing the straw*; ninth, *plattling*; tenth, *manner of knitting*; eleventh, *manner of pressing*.

My son JAMES, who was the real introducer of this manufactory into England, happens, at this time, to be just on his return from Italy, where, with his eldest sister, he has been nearly the whole of the last year. He has been to see all the fine things of those countries, going to Rome by the way of Nice, Genoa, Pisa, and Florence; then

going to Naples, and Pompeii and Vesuvius, returning again to Rome; then coming back, through Bologna, Venice, Padua, Mantua, Verona, Milan, Turin, and sending me his last letter bearing the date and post-mark of "*Mont Saint Bernard*." Amongst all the fine things of Italy; amongst the monuments of antiquity, and the tombs of the illustrious dead, I am sure that he did not forget, while he was in Tuscany, the straw-plat which he had first performed a journey of a hundred miles in America to get at a knowledge of, in the hope of benefiting the industrious people of England. He staid a considerable time in the Tuscan state: and he may have discovered, in the process of growing the straw, or of bleaching it, something which we did not before so well understand. If he have, he will have great pleasure in communicating it to the public; and, if he wanted any additional stimulus beyond that given by his own public spirit and kind disposition, he would find it at once, were he to go, as I did, and see the crowds of industrious women and girls bringing their plat for sale in the market-place of Tring. He cannot have lived with me to the age of twenty-five, without detesting that Scotch philosophy which insists upon the policy of bringing from abroad things which we can grow at home; and to him I shall leave the task of communicating such further information as he may possess, tending to induce us to draw from the land of England itself, an article which we cannot obtain from abroad without more or less of injury to ourselves. He will doubtless have a great deal to tell us of the things which he has seen in travels of such long duration, one hour of which duration I am sure he has not idly spent; and being competent, in point of learning and ability, to an adequate description of all that he has seen; but, if he give us but as much additional information on the subject of this straw as will be the cause of bettering the lot of only one score families of English labourers, I shall not grudge any anxiety that I must naturally have experienced on account of his absence.

I request my correspondents to inform



me, if any one can, where I can get some *spring wheat*. The botanical name of it is, *TRITICUM ÆSTIVUM*. It is sown in the spring, at the same time that barley is; these Latin words mean *summer wheat*. It is a small-grained, bearded wheat. I know, from experience, that the little brown-grained winter wheat is just as good for the purpose: but that must be sown earlier; and there is danger of its being thinned on the ground, by worms and other enemies. I should like to sow some this next spring, in order to convince the people of Tring, and other places, that they need not go to Tuscany for the straw.

Of "*Cobbett's Corn*" there is no considerable piece in the neighbourhood of Tring; but I saw some plants, even upon the high hill where the locusts are growing, and which is very backward land, which appeared to be about as forward as my own is at this time. If Mr. ELLIMAN were to have a patch of good corn by the side of his locust trees, and a piece of spring wheat by the side of the corn, people might then go and see specimens of the three great undertakings, or rather, great additions to the wealth of the nation, introduced under the name of *Cobbett*. The introduction of the Locust tree is my own work; that of the corn, the work of my son William; that of the straw-plat, the work of my son James. Leghorn bonnets, they say, are "*going out of fashion*." They never can be out of fashion for any length of time. They are so beautiful; so simply elegant, so durable, such fine materials for straw hats come from this straw, that if once the manufacture were rendered tolerably cheap, the wear must become general; and, therefore, nothing ought to be neglected that can tend to bring this manufacture out of our own land.

I am the more desirous of introducing this manufacture at Tring on account of the very marked civility which I met with at that place. A very excellent friend of mine, who is professionally connected with that town, was, some time ago, apprised of my intention of going thither to see Mr. ELLIMAN's plantation. He had mentioned this in-

tention to some gentlemen of that town and neighbourhood; and I, to my great surprise, found that a *dinner had been organized*, to which I was to be invited. I never like to disappoint any body; and, therefore, to this dinner I went. The company consisted of about forty-five gentlemen of the town and neighbourhood; and, certainly, though I have been at dinners in several parts of England, I never found, even in Sussex, where I have frequently been so delighted, a more sensible, hearty, entertaining, and hospitable company than this. From me, something in the way of speech was expected, as a matter of course; and though I was, from a cold, so hoarse as not to be capable of making myself heard in a large place, I was so pleased with the company, and with my reception, that, first and last, I dare say I addressed the company for an hour and a half. We dined at two, and separated at nine; and, as I declared at parting, for many, many years, I had not spent a happier day. There was present the editor, or some other gentleman, from the newspaper called "*The Bucks Gazette, and General Advertiser*," who has published in his paper the following account of what passed at the dinner. As far as the report goes, it is substantially correct; and, though this gentleman went away at a very early hour, that which he has given of my speech (which he has given very judiciously) contains matter which can hardly fail to be useful to great numbers of his readers.

#### MR. COBBETT AT TRING.

"Mr. Elliman, a draper, of Tring, has lately formed a considerable plantation of the locust tree, which Mr. Cobbett claims the merit of having introduced into this country. The number he has planted is about 30,000, on five acres and a half of very indifferent land, and they have thrived so uncommonly well, that not more than 500 of the whole number have failed. The success of the plantation being made known to Mr. Cobbett, induced him to pay a visit to Tring to inspect it, and during his sojourn it was de-

"terminated upon by his friends to give him a dinner at the Rose and Crown Inn. Thursday was fixed for the purpose; when about forty persons, agriculturists and tradesmen of Tring and the neighbouring towns, assembled, and sat down to a dinner served up in very excellent style, by Mr. Northwood, the landlord: Mr. Faithful, solicitor, of Tring, in the chair.

"The usual routine toasts having been given,

"The Chairman said he was sure the company would drink the toast with which he should conclude what he was about to say, with every mark of respect. In addressing the company, he rose under feelings of no ordinary kind, for he was about to give the health of a gentleman who had the talent of communicating to his writings an energy and perspicuity which he had never met with elsewhere; who conveyed knowledge in a way so clear, that all who read could understand. He (the Chairman) had read the Political Register, from the first of them to the last, with pleasure and benefit to himself, and he would defy any man to put his finger upon a single line which was not in direct support of a kingly government. He advocated the rights of the people, but he always expressed himself favourable to our ancient form of government; he certainly had strongly, but not too strongly, attacked the corruption of the government; but had never attacked its form or its just powers. As a public writer, he considered him the most impartial that he knew. He well recollected—he knew not if Mr. Cobbett himself recollected it—a remarkable passage in his writings: he was speaking of the pleasure of passing from censure to praise, and thus expressed himself, 'It is turning from the frowns of a surly winter, to welcome a smiling spring come dancing o'er the daisied lawn, crowned with garlands, and surrounded with melody.' Nature had been bountiful to him; it had blessed him with a constitution capable of enduring the greatest fatigues; and a mind of superior

order. Brilliancy, it was said, was a mere meteor; it was so: it was the solidity and depth of understanding such as he possessed, that were really valuable. He had visited this place in consequence of a gentleman having been wise and bold enough to listen to his advice, and to plant a large number of locust trees; and he trusted he would enjoy prosperity and happiness, in duration equal to that of the never-decaying wood of those trees. He concluded by giving Mr. Cobbett's health." (Cheering.)

"Mr. Cobbett returned thanks for the manner in which his health had been drunk, and was certain that the trees which had been the occasion of their meeting would be a benefit to the children of the planter. Though it might appear like presumption to suppose that those who were assembled that day came solely in compliment to him, yet it would be affectation not to believe that it was expected he should say something on the subject of politics. Every one who heard him was convinced that there was something wrong, and that a change of some sort must take place, or ruin to the country would ensue. Though there was a diversity of opinions as to the cause of the distress, and as to the means by which a change might be effected, and though some were not so deeply affected by it as others, all now felt that a change must take place before long, whether they were manufacturers, brewers, butchers, bakers, or of any other description of persons, they had all arrived at the conviction that there must be a change. It would be presumptuous to suppose that many of those assembled did not understand the cause of the present distress, yet there were many who did not; and those gentlemen who did, he begged to have the goodness to excuse him if he repeated what they already knew. Politics was a science which they ought not to have the trouble of studying; they had sufficient to do in their respective avocations, without troubling themselves with such matters. For what were the ministers, and a whole tribe

" of persons under them, paid large sums  
 " of money from the country but for the  
 " purpose of governing its political  
 " affairs. Their fitness for their stations  
 " was another thing. He had been told  
 " that Mr. Huskisson was so ignorant  
 " of the cause of the distress, that he  
 " had openly said, he should be glad if  
 " any practical man would tell him what  
 " it all meant. If any man present  
 " were to profess his ignorance of the  
 " cause of the distress it would be  
 " no disgrace to him; he might be a  
 " very good butcher, a very good farmer,  
 " or a very good baker; he might well  
 " understand the business by which he  
 " gained his living; and if any one  
 " should say to him, because he did not  
 " understand politics, 'You are a very  
 " stupid fellow!' he might fairly reply,  
 " 'What is that to you?' But it was another  
 " thing in those who were so well paid  
 " to manage the affairs of the country to  
 " plead ignorance of the cause of the  
 " prevailing distress. He would explain  
 " the cause of all this. Suppose Farmer  
 " John was to come into Tring market  
 " and to sell twenty bushels of barley to  
 " be delivered next April at three, four,  
 " or five shillings a bushel. Well, the  
 " bargain is made! But suppose, in the  
 " meantime, that Parliament were to  
 " pass a law that the bushel should con-  
 " tain three times as much as it does at  
 " present. What would be the conse-  
 " quence. The farmer would deliver his  
 " corn measured by the old bushel; but  
 " the buyer would say, 'No, there is an  
 " alteration in the bushel; I will have it  
 " measured by the new bushel.' And this  
 " the law would enable him to do and to  
 " insist upon. What justice, he would  
 " ask, would there be in such a pro-  
 " cedure; would it not be a mockery of  
 " justice? Yet this was precisely what  
 " had been done by the Government,  
 " which we so dearly paid to manage  
 " our politics, in favour of the tax-re-  
 " ceivers. When, by the expenses they  
 " had incurred in war, the debt of the  
 " country was raised to 800 millions;  
 " and when, in consequence of their al-  
 " lowing a great issue of paper, the  
 " value of money was much depreciated.  
 " When they had done this, they altered

" and raised the value of money, so as  
 " to cause us to pay three times as much  
 " in taxes as we did before. Soon after  
 " the peace, every thing fell in value,  
 " for though the paper was still kept in  
 " circulation, yet when Parliament met,  
 " they gave notice of an intention to put  
 " an end to it; and in 1819 they passed  
 " an act to compel the Bank to pay in  
 " gold. This they had done, although  
 " they were forewarned; for he had told  
 " them that if they did it, they would  
 " throw the country into confusion. The  
 " Act was passed in 1819, but it was not  
 " to come into force for four years, and  
 " before these four years were expired,  
 " it produced a panic, and they took a  
 " fright, and extended the time of its  
 " coming into operation. Although he  
 " had often in his writings warned the  
 " Parliament of the consequences of this  
 " measure, still he thought it his duty to  
 " warn them to their faces; and in 1826  
 " he prepared a petition, which was pre-  
 " sented by Lord Folkestone, telling  
 " them that if they passed this Bill, the  
 " consequences would be ruin to the  
 " country. They persevered, however, as  
 " if in spite to him, and part of those  
 " consequences were now before them.  
 " He would not call it a tyrannical Go-  
 " vernment, he would not call it corrupt,  
 " but he would say that it was the most  
 " ignorant Government that ever existed.  
 " Mr. Goulburn, with a string of figures  
 " as long as his arm, had endeavoured  
 " to prove in the House of Commons,  
 " that the withdrawal of the one-pound  
 " notes, being altogether so small an  
 " amount, little more than two millions,  
 " would be of no injury to the country,  
 " and that its only effect would be to  
 " make bankers more liberal in dis-  
 " counting with their fives. He would  
 " appeal to the company if they had  
 " found this to be the case. Mr. Goul-  
 " burn had forgotten that the one-pound  
 " notes were the legs upon which the  
 " fives walked. He had heard the Duke  
 " of Wellington use the same language  
 " in the other House. Taught, as they  
 " now were, by experience, it would  
 " scarcely be believed, fifty years hence,  
 " that a set of men could have been  
 " found with so little foresight as to have

"devised measures so fraught with in-  
 "jury. He felt convinced that if he look-  
 "ed to the present company, or any other  
 "accidentally assembled, that he would  
 "find thirteen gentlemen more fit to  
 "manage the affairs of the kingdom than  
 "were those who now presided at the  
 "head of Government; not that he im-  
 "puted to them any desire to do wrong,  
 "or that they were more corrupt than  
 "others; it was clear, that with the eyes  
 "of the public upon them they must wish  
 "to do right; it was owing to their sheer  
 "ignorance, their entire unfitness to  
 "carry on the Government, that they did  
 "no better. Ignorance and unfitness  
 "were, however, pleas which they had  
 "no business to make. It was nothing to  
 "him if a man was ignorant and stupid,  
 "under ordinary circumstances; but if  
 "he entrusted a man with his money,  
 "thinking that he was intelligent, and  
 "was deceived, then it was something;  
 "he had a right to say, 'You are not what  
 "I took you for, you are an ignorant  
 "fellow; you have deceived me, you are  
 "an impostor.' Such was the language  
 "proper to all under such circumstances,  
 "never mind their titles! A friend had  
 "that morning taken him to view the  
 "beautiful vale of Aylesbury, which he  
 "had never before seen; and the first  
 "thought that struck him, on seeing the  
 "rich pasture, was this, 'Good God! is a  
 "country like this to be ruined by the  
 "folly of those who govern it?' When  
 "he was a naughty boy, he used to say  
 "that if he wanted to select Members  
 "for our Houses of Parliament, he would  
 "put a string across any road leading  
 "into London, and that the first 1000  
 "men that ran against his string, he  
 "would choose for Members, and he  
 "would bet a wager that they would be  
 "better qualified than those who now  
 "filled those Houses. That was when  
 "he was a naughty boy; but since that  
 "time a Bill had been passed which  
 "made it banishment for life to use  
 "language that brought the Houses of  
 "Parliament into contempt, and there-  
 "fore he did not say so now. The Go-  
 "vernment, it should be recollected, had  
 "passed all these Acts with the hearty  
 "concurrence of both Houses of Parlia-

"ment; they were thus backed by  
 "these Houses, and they were backed  
 "by ninety-nine out of one hundred  
 "of the papers, which affected to see  
 "all their acts in rose-colour, for no  
 "one who was in the habit of read-  
 "ing the papers, could have anticipated,  
 "from what they there saw, the ruin  
 "which had fallen on the country. Thus  
 "we had an ignorant Government, an  
 "ignorant Parliament, and something  
 "worse than an ignorant press; the lat-  
 "ter being employed (some of them  
 "with considerable talent) to assail and  
 "turn into ridicule those who had the  
 "boldness and honesty to declare their  
 "dissent from the opinion of the wisdom  
 "of the measures of Government. It  
 "was no easy task to stand, unmoved,  
 "their ridicule and sarcasms, and many  
 "were thus deterred from expressing  
 "the sentiments of their minds. In this  
 "country we had all the elements of  
 "prosperity; an industrious people,  
 "such as were no where else to be found;  
 "a country, too, which was once called  
 "the finest and greatest on the earth  
 "(for whatever might be said of the  
 "country in comparison with others,  
 "the turnips of England were worth  
 "more, this year, than all the vines of  
 "France); it was a glorious and a great  
 "country until the Government had  
 "made it otherwise; and it ought still to  
 "be what it once was, and to be capable  
 "of driving the Russians back from  
 "the country of our old and best ally—  
 "the Turks. During the time of war, we  
 "were told that it was necessary to make  
 "great sacrifices to save us from dis-  
 "grace. The people made those sacri-  
 "fices; they gave up their all. But  
 "had the Government done its part;  
 "had it saved us from disgrace? No:  
 "we were now the laughing-stock of all  
 "other countries. The French and all  
 "other nations derided us; and by and  
 "by it would be seen that they would  
 "make a partition of Turkey with the  
 "Russians, and make a fresh subject  
 "for laughter. Never since the time  
 "of Charles had such disgrace been  
 "brought upon the country; and why  
 "was this? When were we again to  
 "see the labourer receiving his wages



" from the farmer instead of being sent  
 " on the road to break stones. Some  
 " people, under this state of things, con-  
 " soled themselves by saying things  
 " would come about again; they had  
 " come about before, and would come  
 " about again. They deceived them-  
 " selves, things did not come about;  
 " the seasons came about, it was true;  
 " but something must be *done* to bring  
 " things about. Instead of the *neuter*  
 " verb (to speak as a grammarian)  
 " they should use the *active*; they  
 " should not say things will *come* about,  
 " but things must be *put* about. He  
 " thought that the distress would shortly  
 " become so great, perhaps, about Christ-  
 " mas, that the Parliamentary gentle-  
 " men, finding they received but a small  
 " part of their rents, without which they  
 " could not do, any more than the far-  
 " mer, without his crops, would endea-  
 " vour to bring them about; and the  
 " measures they would propose for that  
 " purpose, as far as he could judge,  
 " would be Bank restriction, and the re-  
 " issue of one-pound notes, and what  
 " the effect of that would be they would  
 " soon see. One of those persons who  
 " were so profoundly ignorant, would  
 " come down to the House prepared to  
 " propose a return to Bank restriction  
 " and the issue of small notes, and a  
 " bill to that effect would be passed. If  
 " such a bill did pass, he would advise  
 " all persons to be cautious in their  
 " dealings; it would be perilous to make  
 " bargains under such a state of things.  
 " Money was the measure of value;  
 " but if this measure was liable to be  
 " three times as large at one time as at  
 " another, who could know what to do?  
 " how was any one to know how to pur-  
 " chase wheat, if the bushel was to be  
 " altered at the pleasure of the Govern-  
 " ment to three times its present size?  
 " The remedy for the evils of the coun-  
 " try was not to be found in palliatives;  
 " it was not to be found in strong mea-  
 " sures. The first step must be taken  
 " in the House of Commons, but that  
 " was almost hopeless; for although many  
 " persons possessed the right of voting,  
 " it was of little use to them; whilst a  
 " few great men could render their votes

" of no avail. If we had possessed a  
 " House of Commons that represented  
 " the feelings and wishes of the people,  
 " they would not have submitted to much  
 " of what had taken place; and until we  
 " had a reform we should never, he  
 " believed, see measures emanating from  
 " that House which would conduce to  
 " the glory and safety of the country.  
 " He feared that there would be no im-  
 " provement until a dreadful convulsion  
 " took place, and that was an event which  
 " he prayed God to avert from the  
 " country.

" The Chairman proposed 'Pros-  
 " perity to Agriculture,' when

" Mr. Cobbett again rose, and said the  
 " Chairman had told him he was en-  
 " titled to give a sentiment. He would  
 " give prosperity to the towns of Ayles-  
 " bury and Tring; but he would again  
 " advise those who calculated upon the  
 " return of prosperity, to be careful.  
 " Until there was an equitable adjust-  
 " ment, or Government took off part of  
 " the taxes, which was the same thing,  
 " there could be no return of prosperity.

" 'The revival of the commerce of  
 " Great Britain,' and several similar  
 " toasts, were given. Mr. Cobbett, who  
 " appeared highly to enjoy the com-  
 " pany, in the course of the evening,  
 " made several addresses on political  
 " and other subjects. The day passed  
 " off, indeed, to the satisfaction of all  
 " concerned."

After the reporter went away, we had  
 a great number of toasts, most of which  
 were followed by more or less of speech;  
 and, before we separated, I think that  
 the seeds of common sense, on the sub-  
 ject of our distresses, were pretty well  
 planted in the lower part of Hertford-  
 shire, and in Buckinghamshire.

The gentlemen present were men of  
 information, well able to communicate  
 to others that which they themselves had  
 heard; and I endeavoured to leave no  
 doubt in the mind of any man that heard  
 me, that the cause of the distress was  
 the work of the Government and House  
 of Commons, and that it was nonsense  
 to hope for a cure until the people had  
 a real voice in the choosing of that House.  
 I think that these truths were well im-

planted; and I further think that if I could go to the capital of every county in the kingdom, I should leave no doubt in the minds of any part of the people. I must not omit to mention, in conclusion, that though I am no eater or drinker, and though I tasted nothing but the breast of a little chicken, and drank nothing but water, the dinner was the best that ever I saw called a *public dinner*, and certainly unreasonably cheap. There were excellent joints of meat of the finest description, fowls and geese in abundance; and, finally, a very fine haunch of venison, with a bottle of wine for each person; and all for *seven shillings and sixpence per head*. Good waiting upon; civil landlord and landlady; and, in short, every thing at this very pretty town pleased me exceedingly. Yet, what is Tring but a fair specimen of English towns and English people? And is it right, and is it to be suffered, that such a people should be plunged into misery by the acts of those whom they pay so generously, and whom they so loyally and cheerfully obey?

As far as I had an opportunity of ascertaining the facts, the farmers feel all the pinchings of distress, and the still harsher pinchings of anxiety for the future; and the labouring people are suffering in a degree not to be described. The shutting of the male paupers up in pounds is common through Bedfordshire and Buckinghamshire. Left at large during the day, they roam about and maraud. What are the farmers to do with them? God knows how long the peace is to be kept, if this state of things be not put a stop to. The natural course of things is, that an attempt to impound the paupers in cold weather will produce resistance in some place; that those of one parish will be joined by those of another; that a formidable band will soon be assembled; then will ensue the rummaging of pantries and cellars; that this will spread from parish to parish; and that, finally, mobs of immense magnitude will set the law at open defiance. Jails are next to useless in such a case: their want of room must leave the greater part of the offenders at large; the agonizing distress of the farmers will

make them comparatively indifferent with regard to these violences; and, at last, general confusion will come. This is by no means an unlikely progress, or an unlikely result. It therefore becomes those who have much at stake, to join heartily in their applications to Government for a timely remedy for these astounding evils.

WM. COBBETT.

### RUSSIAN BONDS.

"FORE-WARNED, fore-armed," says the old proverb; and though to a desperate speculator all warnings are of little use, there may be some persons, whose utter ruin I should be sorry for, who have deposited their money in Russian Bonds. Therefore, reminding my readers of the thousands who were ruined by Spanish Bonds, Colombian Bonds, Mexican Bonds, and all the rest of that rubbish, I will here offer my opinion with regard to the chances relative to Russian Bonds.

Russia borrows money in England. The thing works in this way: generally speaking, the lender gets his money, in one shape or another, out of the taxes: the trade and agriculture of the country having become unprofitable, and he being able to obtain no adequate security on private property, he would put his money into the English funds; but they, from the cause just mentioned are so high that they afford him but little interest for his money: little more than three and a half per cent., or, perhaps, not so much; while, in the bonds of Russia, his money will, perhaps, yield him five, or perhaps six per cent. This would be very fine work, if there were security; and now let us see how that matter stands.

In Russia, there is no revolutionary cortes, as there was in Spain; there is no ragamuffin congress, as in Mexico or Colombia; sets of robbers, who never have had the assent of the people for borrowing the money; who have no exchequer or fiscal system, any more than the grasshoppers on Bagshot heath. In Russia, there is a settled and powerful government, capable of legally *contracting* a debt, at any rate. But,

though there is no confiscating cortes for a king to *disavow*, and no congress to get drunk, and roll about the streets, as the Mexican patriots did, or were said to do, when they got the money from England; though in Russia there is a settled government, England may be at war with Russia; and war, be it known to speculators, *cancels all debts due to the state, or the subjects of the state, with which you are at war.* Cancels these debts for ever, if the debtor pleases; and, at the very least, suspends their effect during the war. The Americans cancelled all debts due to English subjects, at the breaking-out of the revolutionary war; and they pleaded, as they had a right to do, the usage of all nations. When we went to war with France, in 1793, an act was passed, making it high treason to convey either money or goods, either directly or indirectly, to persons residing in France. The French, on their part, following our example, ceased to pay interest on their rents, or funds, due to persons in England. The Americans, in their last war with us, did not do this; but it was from mere policy that they did not do it; they had a right to do it; and, indeed, it would be absurd to attempt to maintain the contrary, for can it be reasonable that a nation, while it is fighting with another nation, should cramp itself in its means in order to feed the resources of that other nation?

Indeed, when we came to make peace with France, we obtained a stipulation, binding the French government to pay the debts due to English subjects, though those debts had been confiscated. But that was merely accidental: we had an army at Paris; we dictated that peace in a great measure; the French government was not in a state to refuse us the demand; the same motive that led it to surrender the museums, led it to stipulate for the payment of these debts. Mark this; that the same debts were due to English subjects when the peace of Amiens was made, in the year 1801; and then, we having to treat with the lion, and being glad to patch up a peace, *made no stipulation in favour of these English creditors of France.* It was

merely the accidental circumstance of our being able to dictate a peace to the Bourbons, that obtained the payment of these debts to English subjects.

Therefore, let Russian bondholders take heed to what they do. If we are to have war with Russia, that moment the interest of the bonds would cease to be paid; and, unless the bondholder have some security that we shall be able to dictate a peace to Russia, he may bid an everlasting farewell to all the money that he has laid out in the bonds. Besides this, Russia, though disposed to pay after the war is over, may, during the war, have forcibly reduced the interest of her debt to one third of the nominal interest, as she has done once before. If she were to do this (and where is the chance that she will not?) would she keep faith with foreigners when she broke it with her own subjects? Without any war at all, she may forcibly reduce the interest on her bonds; and that she will not do it, who will venture to predict?

The same may be said, with regard to the Prussian Bonds, and all other bonds; aye, and with regard to the *American railway, too.* War cancels all debts due to the subjects of the nation with whom you are at war; and, as to a recovery of them by treaty, after the war is over, that must depend upon the relative strength of the parties; and their relative desire, or necessity, to make peace. No nation is bound to continue a war for a single hour in order to obtain a restitution of the property of speculators, or even of merchants. The principle on which nations act in this respect, is this: Merchants and usurers, are the best judges of their own concerns: they make their shipments and their loans at their own pleasure, and for their own profit: they do not carry on their transactions by any public authority: they ship goods and lend money for their own particular gain: if their own views be answered: if they profit a thousand per cent. by their adventures, they give the nation no share of the gains: they keep all the gains to themselves; and, is the nation, then, to keep on a war: to keep

on expending its resources, and shedding its blood, in order to secure what these merchants and usurers would otherwise lose? The monstrosity of the proposition is so evident, that no man will maintain it. Were we, for instance, to go to war with the King of Spain, to compel him to pay debts, or pretended debts, due to the bondholders? We did not do it, to be sure; but there was just as much reason for doing it as there would have been in our continuing the war with France for a single hour, in order to compel France to pay the debts due to English subjects before the war.

As I observed before, the stipulation about these debts arose from mere accident: and it was unwise and unjust also. Unwise, because to exact the payment had a tendency to excite heart-burning against the people of France; and unjust towards the English nation, whose interests were thus sacrificed to a band of speculators. If this stipulation had not been demanded, some commercial advantage might have been secured, in which the whole of the English people would have shared; but, having granted this, those commercial advantages could not be demanded; for, in all probability, Russia, Prussia, and Austria, would not have agreed to our demand for such advantages after we had obtained this enormous concession.

At the very best, even supposing us to be sure to be able to dictate a peace to Russia, there is the sequestration of the debts during the war, and there are the tardy movements of commissioners after the war; so that, if we were to have war with Russia now, the bondholder might think himself lucky if he touched a farthing of the principal before he were as grey as a rat, though he may now be just come of age.

It is worth while for the bondholder, therefore, to think a little upon the question, whether we be to have war with Russia or not. To help him in this inquiry, I will first insert an extract from a French paper, called the "*Journal des Debats*." I beg the bondholder to read it, and to put to himself the question *whether* this country is destined to endure for ever taunts like these. I

beg all my readers to peruse it with great attention. It is full of matter worthy of the best attention of Englishmen.

PARIS, SEPT. 17.—No reasoning can prevent the present epoch from being one of political decay for England. No sophism can restore to her that power over Europe, which she has voluntarily alienated. This may arise, perhaps, from the ambition of Russia—from the weakness of the Ottoman Empire—from the lethargy of Austria, and the indifference of Prussia. The cause, however, is of no consequence; but it is certain that in 1827, the expression was, if "England pleases," while, in 1829, it is everywhere said, whether "England likes it or not, is of no consequence." In order to judge correctly of a present circumstance, we must sometimes remember the past, and look to the future. Let us suppose, therefore, that Sir J. Mackintosh, Mr. Brougham, Lord Holland, or Lord Lansdown, had stated, *two years ago*, as a rhetorical figure, that the giant of the North would possess in a short time the capital of the Ottoman Empire, both in Europe and Asia; that the ports on the south of the Euxine would receive Russian garrisons, while the Cossacks were threatening the castles of the Dardanelles, the Members of the Opposition themselves would have found the assertion a little too strong, and the Ministerial orators would have replied by a haughty appeal to British dignity, to the influence of Britain abroad, and to all those common-places about national power and honour, with which the good easy people are everywhere so readily satisfied. But all these things have happened, and perhaps only the half of the events which are preparing are yet known to us. What then has changed in England? Nothing, except the language. The Russian Colossus is nothing more than a mild and moderate Prince, who takes up arms to lay them down at the first summons, by those who wished his expedition to sail, in the most exemplary manner. He is a conqueror who invades only to restore—who is only going to Constantinople to convince his enemy of his own weakness, and consequently inform him of the means by which he may re-assume his old rivalry. We shall not be surprised, should it be stated at London, that Mahmoud was to be indemnified for the sacrifices his resistance has cost him. The Emperor of Russia has visited the straight where the trade of his most fertile provinces is exposed to even renewed outrages, and sometimes threatened with complete interruption; and he is to return without insuring his commercial marine that development to which it has a right, and without which it cannot exist. Who knows that Mahmoud will not demand from him the cession of Sebastopol and Odessa? In fact, it is to amuse one's self with Russia to expect to catch her in such a net. What! when you doubted her success—when you wished to see



pestilence and famine in her camps, and her vessels exposed to hurricane; then you had, in speaking of her Sovereign, no other words in your mouth than ambition—spirit of conquest—and invasion; and now, when you see, with your arms folded, at London and Vienna, that his forces are majestically surrounding the gates of the Turkish capital, you are at his feet trembling, like the Turks, from apprehension, and calling on him to have compassion on the balance of power in Europe, as they call on him to suspend hostilities. A pleasant hope! and if the Duke of Wellington has no other illusion to offer to England, I can readily believe, as has already been said, that he begins to find business troublesome. *It was not for this that he was called to the head of his Sovereign's Councils—and this was not the first use he promised himself to make of the pacification of Ireland.* But, even the results of this great measure are become a matter of contest. In Ireland the people talk of nothing but a mere important independence. It is recollected that Dublin once had its Parliament, and it is known that at present the population of Ireland is seven millions. You may imagine the Duke of Wellington pressed in Parliament, by the consistent adversaries of Catholic Emancipation, as to the consequences of a measure which they energetically opposed; pressed also on the measures of their exterior policy by those who are the true defenders of the English preponderance in the business of Europe; we may imagine we see Mahmoud, with Diebitsch in front of him, and Paskewitch in his rear, Europe and Asia fall at the same time. The Turks demand of the Sultan what he has done with the standard of the Prophet. England will also demand of the Duke of Wellington to render an account of the honour of the English flag. Will this be the end of his career? Providence sports sometimes very strangely with human combinations.

This article shows the contempt in which we are held in Europe. How long shall we bear it? "*The Morning Chronicle*," which is a sort of half ministerial paper, tells us that the Duke has been most vigorously firing, not cannons, but documents, at the Emperor NICHOLAS. The Chronicle to which I refer is that of the 21st of September. Its observations, which I am about to quote, are in answer to the above paragraph from the French paper. The words are as follows:—

"On the important question of the war in the East, we are informed that a communication has been addressed by the Duke of WELLINGTON directly to the Emperor Nicholas, in which the

"British minister lays down principles, corrects erroneous assumptions, and quotes treaties with his usual straight-forward simplicity of manner. We are assured that in this remarkable document, a perspicuous brevity has been substituted for the sophisticated jargon which has hitherto been usual in diplomacy; and that, although interspersed with obliging expressions, and becomingly respectful throughout, it does not fail to set the EMPEROR right as to some misconceptions of the state of public opinion in England into which he has fallen; nor to recal to his recollection the spirit in which he professed to enter into the existing war with Turkey; it then, as we learn, proceeds to explain the views of Great Britain and her allies as to the proper basis for a general pacification, and temperately, but firmly, announces their joint determination to abide by the principles adopted, and the conditions assented to by the high contracting parties previous to the commencement of hostilities. If all this is truly stated (and we have every reason to receive it), we cannot admit the justice of the imputation, which would ascribe to the British Cabinet either apathy or imbecility."

This is pretty stuff; this is, as the French paper says, something to amuse the credulous people of England. Remarkable document, indeed! It was a remarkable fleet or two that were wanted; it was the sound of cannon, and not the scratchings of a pen. If this remarkable document should be penned with as much elegance and correctness as was the Duke's famous letter to DR. CURTIS, it will be powerful indeed with the EMPEROR NICHOLAS, and must set all his courtiers in a roar, especially if they happen to be grammarians. In short, this is ribald nonsense. A pretty thing, indeed, for the minister of one king to write directly in his own name to another king: a very pretty story, but one that nobody but idiots will suck down. The EMPEROR NICHOLAS is, by this time, in Constantinople itself, I dare say, and we must be at war with Russia,

and soon afterwards with France, unless we mean to give up the Seven Islands, and Malta, and come packing out, bag and baggage, from the Mediterranean sea. A pretty time to write a letter to the EMPEROR NICHOLAS; a pretty time for *straightforward simplicity*; a pretty time for *firmness of language*; after the Duke has stood with his arms a-kimbo, and seen the Turkish empire overturned.

But, what does Dr. BLACK mean by the Duke's not having failed to put the Emperor "right as to some misconceptions of the state of public opinion in England into which he had fallen"? What does Dr. BLACK mean by this? What *misconceptions* could the Emperor have fallen into about this public opinion? Public opinion in England has, from first to last, been in favour of the Turk and against the Russian. The contest has by no means been viewed with indifference. The people have felt very acutely upon the subject: they have had the sense to see, in spite of all the delusions that have been practised upon them, that the fall of Turkey would be a great blow to England; a great disgrace to her; and, as the French paper truly observes, "it was not for this that the Duke was called to the head of his Sovereign's councils."

However, it seems to be impossible; it seems to be too disgraceful, for us to put up quietly with the dismemberment of this Turkish Empire; and, therefore, let the Russian bondholder look to his bonds. Let him look to his security; but let him not rely upon the money and blood of the country being expended to get him back his sequestered property: he has lent his money for the sake of his own private profit, and let him, if loss arise, put up with that loss.

THE writer of the following letter has sent me his name; but I do not think it right to insert it. It contains, I dare say, a faithful description of the frightful state of the people in that industrious and enterprising town. It is impossible to contemplate a state of things like this with any degree of patience. That this

state of things can last is certainly impossible; but terrible sufferings must take place in the mean time.

Paisley, 21st August, 1829.

"SIR,—The situation of our country is now so alarming, that it demands the attention of every one who understands his own interests, and also all those who make the smallest pretensions to patriotic virtue. But the real extent of the misery now so rapidly on the increase, is not to be obtained through the ordinary channels of the newspapers; they, as usual, betray a disposition rather to withhold than to exhibit the truth; no doubt acting under the fallacious idea that things will speedily get better, and in direct proportion as they succeed in gulling their readers into the belief that there exists no real ground for alarm; so in direct proportion will they succeed in restoring the sunshine of prosperity. Like the consumptive patient, whose bosom is seldom without hope, till on the verge of dissolution; and when medicine has finally proved abortive, he, with the last breath of expiring nature, acknowledges that he was deceived.

"You, I believe, above all men in the three kingdoms, must be deeply interested in that measure which if persisted in under present circumstances, will inevitably place the inhabitants of this once happy country on a level with those who dwell on the shores of the Baltic. To be sure, we are not yet clad with the skins of wild animals, but we are clad with rags; the former state is indicative of the rudest stage of society, and the latter is the most unequivocal proofs of a country having passed the meridian of its glory, and fast approaching that enervated state of decay, which makes it the scene of loathsome misery within, and despised by its neighbours abroad. I have been long a convert to your opinions on the subject of the currency, and I consider it an act of justice towards you to describe, as briefly as possible, the workings of cash payments in the town of my nativity.

“ Ever since the First of April, that  
 “ memorable day on which, doubtless,  
 “ Mr. Peel commenced to compose the  
 “ epitaph to be placed on the tomb of  
 “ the ‘ worthless rags,’ the misery in  
 “ this town has been almost inde-  
 “ scribable; bankruptcy and ruin has  
 “ been the order of the day, and the  
 “ privations experienced by the unem-  
 “ ployed, is without a parallel. It is im-  
 “ possible to give you a correct state-  
 “ ment of the number of unemployed in  
 “ this place at present, every attempt of  
 “ this kind being studiously discouraged  
 “ by the authorities, for reasons which  
 “ you will be able to discover; but ac-  
 “ cording to a statement which lately ap-  
 “ peared in *The Glasgow Chronicle*, the  
 “ number of unemployed was set down  
 “ at 2,500, exclusive of those looms  
 “ which have never been employed since  
 “ the ‘ late panic.’ A number of the dis-  
 “ tressed weavers are employed in im-  
 “ proving the road, at 1s. per day; and if  
 “ they are to be thus engaged till they  
 “ can resume their wonted calling, in all  
 “ probability every stone, the size of a  
 “ pigeon’s egg, will be removed from the  
 “ bed of the river. A number are also  
 “ employed in cracking stones, at from  
 “ three to fourpence per day, and  
 “ many of them are men with families:  
 “ the pen almost drops from the hand  
 “ when we attempt to describe the suffer-  
 “ ings they endure.

“ In addition to these modes of relief,  
 “ as they are called, we have had for the  
 “ last four months a soup, or rather a  
 “ broth, kitchen, in active operation, and  
 “ I understand that this engine of de-  
 “ gradation has frequently yielded five  
 “ hundred portions of broth a day to as  
 “ many starving applicants; and if re-  
 “ port errs not, this broth kitchen, this  
 “ insulting mode of relieving the neces-  
 “ sities of an honest but starving popu-  
 “ lation, has been supplied with vege-  
 “ tables by gentlemen of the county;  
 “ gentlemen who profess Whig princi-  
 “ ples, and who rank among those who  
 “ style themselves the ‘ hereditary talent  
 “ and representatives of the county.’

“ Here, then, we are drinking the  
 “ bitter dregs of the folly of having mar-  
 “ shalled out, in proud array, to crush

“ the infant liberties of France; that  
 “ unrighteous crusade against the liber-  
 “ ties of mankind has loaded England  
 “ with debt; it has made her the mistress  
 “ of fraud and speculation; it has plant-  
 “ ed a cancer in her bosom, which  
 “ threatens to destroy the vitals of her  
 “ strength, and make her to crouch  
 “ before the prowess of those who for-  
 “ merly courted her counsel and pro-  
 “ tection. What will twice-conquered  
 “ France think of our present suffer-  
 “ ings? What will she think of Great  
 “ Britain? that Great Britain, that but a  
 “ few years ago, consigned to the earth  
 “ the self-destroyed body of a minister  
 “ who, in the hour of his insolence, con-  
 “ templated remodelling the map of  
 “ Europe. Will she, in the tranquillity,  
 “ of amazement, admire the decisive  
 “ hand of retributive justice; or rather  
 “ display that light flippancy of spirit,  
 “ that characterizes her people, and  
 “ laugh at our calamities till the peals  
 “ of her laughter reach even the English  
 “ Channel?

“ But to come nearer home, what will  
 “ our old friend, Mallachi Mc. Growther,  
 “ be thinking on the matter: the sale of  
 “ novels must be affected by this time;  
 “ and he will surely be rubbing the rust  
 “ off his claymore, to draw it in defence  
 “ of something else than small notes. But  
 “ perhaps, he will consider that the  
 “ military chief who has declared him-  
 “ self in favour of gold; is too well  
 “ skilled in the art of man to be afraid  
 “ of his opposition; Mallachi will there-  
 “ fore be much better employed in de-  
 “ scribing a hunt on the Border, or a  
 “ glen in the Highlands, than in writing  
 “ any more pamphlets in defence of a  
 “ cheap currency. The opinions of bu-  
 “ siness men, on the state of our trade  
 “ at present, are scarcely worthy of at-  
 “ tention; few of them are capable of  
 “ reasoning soundly on the subject; but  
 “ it must appear apparent, that when  
 “ the circulating medium of a coun-  
 “ try is gradually lessening, the rate  
 “ of profit must be less than when  
 “ money matters have assumed a state  
 “ of solidity. Hence the reason why  
 “ many of our warehouses show the  
 “ sombre appearances of a house pre-

"paring for a funeral rather than the  
"active buzz of commercial establish-  
"ments.

"Thus, I have given you but a faint  
"description of the workings of Peel's  
"Bill in this place; and I believe that  
"we have not yet felt one half of the suf-  
"ferings we must yet encounter, if this  
"measure be pushed to its utmost extent,  
"without corresponding retrenchment.  
"But dark as the prospect is that opens  
"before us, we have one consolation  
"left us, and that is, that we are not  
"living in sight of the naked statue of  
"Achilles; the sight would be too splen-  
"did for the present weak state of our  
"nerves, and it would go far in prevent-  
"ing us from participating in the joy  
"that awaits the triumph of your prin-  
"ciples." I remain, your most obedient  
"humble servant, A. H."

#### BEATING OF FRENCH.

THE indictment for this assault was tried this day (24th September), at Hicks's Hall, before Mr. CONST and a full bench of the magistrates of the county. Mr. PRENDERGAST was counsel for French, and Mr. PHILLIPS and Mr. LEE were for us. The verdict was, "Guilty, but under STRONG PRO-VOCATION." With this the charge of the Chairman corresponded; and the sentence was, a fine of 20*l.* on the elder, and of 40*s.* on each of the other two under-signed, and all the three to enter into our own recognizances of 100*l.* each to keep the peace for twelvemonths.—Our able counsel, with our full concurrence, suffered French to say just what he pleased in his evidence: there was no restraint upon him. The speech of Mr. PHILLIPS we do not attempt to describe. We have no means of giving a full report at present; but we hope to be able to do it hereafter; and have now only time to offer our thanks to Mr. Phillips for his judicious and able conduct in the case, and also to express our gratitude for the friendly conduct of the gentlemen of the Bar generally.

WM. COBBETT, JUN.  
JOHN COBBETT.  
RICHARD COBBETT.

#### ADVICE TO YOUNG MEN.

THE Fourth Number of this work is now published. The title is "Advice to Young Men, and, *incidentally and with great diffidence*, to Young Women, in the middle and higher ranks of life." I have begun with the YOUTH, and shall go to the YOUNG MAN or the BACHELOR, talk the matter over with him as a LOVER, then consider him in the character of HUSBAND; then as FATHER; then as CITIZEN or SUBJECT.

A TREATISE ON COBBETT'S CORN; containing instruction for propagating and cultivating the plant, and for harvesting and preserving the crop; and also an account of the several uses to which the produce is applied, with minute directions as to each mode of application. Price 5*s.* 6*d.*

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The usual growth and size and the uses of each sort of tree, the seed of each, the season and manner of collecting the seed, the manner of preserving and of sowing it, and also the manner of managing the young plants until fit to plant out;

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Being arranged in Alphabetical Order, and the List of them, including those of America as well as those of England, and the English, French, and Latin name being prefixed to the directions relative to each tree respectively.

This is a very handsome octavo book, of fine paper and print, price 14*s.* and it contains matter sufficient to make any man a complete tree-planter.

**THE LANCET** of this day, contains, An Address to its Readers on the Commencement of Volume I. 1829-30; and every information to Pupils respecting Medical, Surgical, and Anatomical Schools of the Metropolis, both public and private; Hospital Reports; Inquest on Mrs. Phillips; Mrs. Denmark's Case; Bats and Owls; History of Lithotrity, &c. &c.

No. 318 of **THE LANCET**, to be published on Saturday, October 3, will contain Mr. Lawrence's Introductory Lecture of Thursday next. Published at 210, Strand.

Printed by William Cobbett, Johnson's court; and published by him, at 183, Fleet street.